

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

- i. Plans of the Ministry of Foreign Trade with regard to the purchase of merchant shipping abroad call for the purchase of one or two old vessels of 10,000 DWT during 1955. 50X1-HUM

3. Vessels built after 1945 are of no interest to the ministry, but any old vessel of 10,000 DWT which is in fair condition will be considered provided the classification is valid for the next two years.
4. The reason given for this policy is the fact that Poland is now building vessels of 10,000 DWT at Gdansk (Danzig). The first of these vessels is expected to be ready in 1956.
5. It was also made clear that foreign currency is in short supply and that the provision in the 1955 plan for the purchase of the one or two vessels depended on the price. It was stressed that credit conditions were a major consideration.

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